1.-20. (Cancelled).

21. (NEW) A document retrieval system comprising:

a document information display means for displaying document information received as a results of an initial search;

a means for selecting at least a portion of said document information displayed by said document information display means;

a search button for initiating an associative-document-type search using said at least a portion of said document information as a query;

a means for extracting topic words from said at least a portion of said document information based on the associative-document-type search; and

a means for modifying and confirming a Boolean expression, wherein said Boolean expression comprises said topic words.

22. (NEW) The document retrieval system of Claim 21, further comprising:

a document content display means for displaying contents of said documents information identified by the document information displayed by the document information display means.

23. (NEW) The document retrieval system of Claim 21, further comprising:

a database selecting part for selecting at least one database to be searched, wherein said at least one database is selected from a plurality of databases including keyword-search-type databases and associative-document-search-type databases.

24. (NEW) The document retrieval system of Claim 21, wherein said initial search is a keyword search.

25. (NEW) The document retrieval system of Claim 21, further comprising:

a database selecting part for selecting at least one database to be searched, wherein said at least one database is selected from a plurality of databases including keyword-search-type databases and associative-document-search-type databases and said Boolean expression is sent to at least a specified keyword-search-type database

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selected by said database selecting part.

26. (NEW) A document retrieval method, comprising the steps of:

sending a request to perform a keyword search in at least one keyword-search-type database;

receiving document information as search results;

specifying at least a part of said document information as a specified document information;

sending a search request to perform a document retrieval in at least one associative-document-search-type database using said specified document information as a query;

extracting topic words from said specified document information;

modifying and confirming a Boolean expression comprising said topic words; and

sending said Boolean expression to at least one keyword-search-type database.

27. (NEW) A search server that receives a search request containing a document information from a document retrieval terminal, issues said search request to specified databases, and sends edited search results to said document retrieval terminal, said search server comprising:

means for sending a request for a summary of said document information to at least an associative-document-search-type database which stores information about said document information;

query constructing means for sending said summary to a specified associative-document-search-type database as a query, said summary created by said associative-document-search-type database which stores information about said document information;

means for extracting topic words from a search result sent by said specified associative-document-search-type database based on said query;

means for sending a request to modify a Boolean expression using said topic words to said document retrieval terminal; and

means for requesting a search based on a search type of a keyword-search-type

databases using a modified Boolean expression sent by said document retrieval terminal.

28.   (NEW) The search server as described in Claim 27, wherein said document information includes a plurality of documents and said query constructing means sends a set of words as said query to said specified associative-document-search-type database, said set of words obtained by merging said summary correspondent to each of said plurality of documents.